IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:

    enabling a standard notification rule to generate a first notification upon an

    occurrence of a predetermined event to a first person in a hierarchy; and

    enabling an advanced notification rule to preempt the standard notification rule by

    suspending the first notification from being generated upon the occurrence such

    that the first notification is not generated.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

    generating a second notification to a second person in the hierarchy based on the

    advanced notification rule.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the advanced notification

    rule includes a scope and wherein the scope of the advanced notification rule is

    configured by at least one of the group consisting of a company, a satellite, a host

    assigned to a company, a service configured on a host for a company, a check

    type, a host state, a service state, a contact group, and a message pattern.

8.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 where the advanced notification rule is configured to preempt the standard notification rule for a temporary amount of time.

9.   (Previously Presented) A machine readable medium having stored thereon instructions, which when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform the following:

      enabling a standard notification rule to generate a first notification upon an occurrence of a predetermined event to a first person in a hierarchy; and

      enabling an advanced notification rule to preempt the standard notification rule by suspending the first notification from being generated upon the occurrence such that the first notification is not generated.

10.   (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 9 further comprising:

      generating a second notification to a second person in the hierarchy.

11.   (Canceled)

12.   (Canceled)

13.   (Canceled).

14.   (Canceled)

15.   (Previously Presented) The machine readable medium of claim 9, wherein the advanced notification rule includes a scope where the scope of the advanced

notification rule configured by at least one of the group consisting of a company, a satellite, a host assigned to a company, a service configured on a host for a company, a check type, a host state, a service state, a contact group, and a message pattern.

16.   (Previously Presented) The machine readable medium of claim 9, wherein the advanced notification rule is configured to preempt the standard notification rule for a temporary amount of time.

17.   (Previously Presented) An apparatus, comprising:

means for enabling a standard notification rule to generate a first notification upon an occurrence of a predetermined event to a first person in a hierarchy; and

means for enabling an advanced notification rule to preempt the standard notification rule by suspending the first notification from being generated upon the occurrence such that the first notification is not generated.

18.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 17 further comprising:

means for generating a second notification to a second person in the hierarchy.

19.   (Canceled)

20.   (Canceled)

21.   (Canceled)

22.   (Canceled)

23.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the advanced

        notification rule includes a scope and wherein the scope of the advanced

        notification rule is configured by at least one of the group consisting of a

        company, a satellite, a host assigned to a company, a service configured on a host

        for a company, a check type, a host state, a service state, a contact group, and a

        message pattern.

24.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 17 where the advanced

        notification rule is configured to preempt the standard notification rule for a

        temporary amount of time.

25.   (Previously Presented) An digital processing system, comprising:

        a processor configured to enable a standard notification rule to generate a first

        notification upon an occurrence of a predetermined event to a first person in a

        hierarchy, and to enable an advanced notification rule to preempt the standard

        notification rule by suspending the first notification from being generated upon

        the occurrence such that the first notification is not generated; and

        a communications device coupled to the processor to transmit the notifications.

26.   (Previously Presented) The digital processing system of claim 25 wherein the

        communications device is configured to transmit the second notification to a

        second person in the hierarchy based on the advanced notification rule.

27.   (Canceled)

28.   (Canceled)

29. (Original) The digital processing system of claim 25 where the communications device transmits the first notification to the first person in the hierarchy and the processor acknowledges the first notification.

Claims 30-40 (Canceled)

41. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the advanced notification rule is enabled to preempt the standard notification rule while continuing monitoring for the predetermined event.

42. (New) The machine readable medium of claim 9, wherein the advanced notification rule is enabled to preempt the standard notification rule while continuing monitoring for the predetermined event.

43. (New) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the advanced notification rule is enabled to preempt the standard notification rule while continuing monitoring for the predetermined event.

44. (New) The digital processing system of claim 25, wherein the processor is configured to enable the advanced notification rule to preempt the standard notification rule while continuing monitoring for the predetermined event.